



**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides
for continued examination of an utility or plant application
filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	10/050,832
Filing Date	January 18, 2002
First Named Inventor	Kazuhiko ONO
Group Art Unit	1725
Examiner Name	Jonathan J. Johnson
Attorney Docket Number	VX022408

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

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1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on: _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on: _____
- iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☒ Other Claim to Priority with certified copy of JP2001-013270

2. **Miscellaneous**

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☒ Other Petition for a One-Month Extension of Time

3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 22-0256.
- i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e).
- ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17).
- iii. ☒ Other any deficiencies in the enclosed fees.
- b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$ 770.00 & 110.00 is enclosed.
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	R. Eugene Varndell, Jr.	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	29,728
Signature		Date	November 3, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name (Print/Type)	
Signature	
Date	

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re the application of:

Inventor(s) : Kazuhiko ONO *et al.*
Serial Number : 10/050,832
Filed : June 29, 2001
For : LASER WELDING METHOD
Examiner : Jonathan J. Johnson
Group Art Unit : 1725

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VOLUNTARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

The Honorable Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

November 3, 2003

Dear Sir:

This voluntary amendment is being filed together with a request for continued examination (RCE) and a petition for one-month extension of time. These papers are being filed in response to the Official action mailed July 2, 2003, which set forth a three-month period for response. The petition for a one-month extension of time extended the period for response to November 2, 2003. Since November 2, 2003, was a Sunday, the attached RCE can be timely filed on the next business day, Monday, November 3, 2003.